

NEC-158US

09/547,036

05510004AA

Reply to office action mailed 2/12/2004

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

**Listing of claims:**

1 1 (Currently amended). An audio-video managing system wherein said system  
2 comprises a plurality of audio-video apparatus, hereinafter referred to as AV  
3 apparatus, and a managing apparatus which is connected with said plurality of AV  
4 apparatus; and

5 wherein said managing apparatus comprises:

6 means for receiving AV apparatus information including information on  
7 functions of said AV apparatus and ranks of said functions, which is transmitted from  
8 said plurality of AV apparatus and for detecting duplicated functions existing among  
9 said plurality of AV apparatus; and

10 means for determining allocation so that the duplicated function is allocated to  
11 an AV apparatus having a highest rank and optimum functions are allocated to each  
12 of said plurality of AV apparatus based upon the information on the rank of said  
13 function when the presence of duplicated functions among said plurality of AV  
14 apparatus functions is detected so that control of said duplicated functions is handled  
15 by a single command issued from said managing apparatus.

1 2 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein each  
2 of said AV apparatus transmits control drivers of the functions which are determined  
3 by said managing apparatus to each of said managing apparatus,

4 said managing apparatus comprises means for receiving the control drivers of  
5 said functions which are transmitted from each of said AV apparatus to store and hold  
6 said control drivers and for transmitting said control drivers of said functions to any  
7 other AV apparatus which does not have said functions.

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1 3 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said  
2 AV apparatus information comprises information of identification of its own AV  
3 apparatus, a number of sets of information on the functions and ranks, which number  
4 is equal to the number of function which possessed by its own AV apparatus and in  
5 that said apparatus transmits said AV apparatus information to said managing  
6 apparatus when said AV apparatus is connected to said managing apparatus.

1 4 (Currently amended). An AV Apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1,  
2 wherein said managing apparatus comprises means for inputting information which is  
3 specified by an a user so that presetting of the connection mode and function  
4 allocation of said AV apparatus is rendered possible by the specification of said user.

1 5 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein at  
2 least one of said plurality of AV apparatus comprises said managing apparatus.

1 6 (Currently amended). An AV apparatus managing system, wherein said system  
2 comprises one or more audio-video apparatus, hereinafter referred to as AV  
3 apparatus, and a plurality of information processing apparatus being connected to one  
4 or more of said AV apparatus and having functions outputting audio and/or ~~vide~~  
5 video signals, and

6 wherein said AV apparatus selects the information processing apparatus  
7 having a highest rank function based upon rank information of the functions  
8 possessed by this AV apparatus to transmit a control driver of said highest rank  
9 function to said selected information processing apparatus.

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1 7 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said  
2 system is connected with an apparatus transferring data of plurality of channels so that  
3 data on each of said channels is reproduced by respective different AV apparatus.

1 8 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said  
2 system further comprises means for selecting an AV apparatus which performs said  
3 function in a predetermined selecting format when a plurality of AV apparatus have a  
4 same rank for a same function.

1 9 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said  
2 system further comprises at least one information processing apparatus which  
3 comprises said managing apparatus, said processing apparatus being connected to one  
4 or more of said AV apparatus and having functions outputting audio and/or video  
5 signals.

1 10 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 2, wherein  
2 said system further comprises at least one information processing apparatus which  
3 comprises said managing apparatus.

1 11 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 10, wherein  
2 said computer comprises at least one function unit which performs at least one  
3 function selected for at least one of the AV apparatus.

1 12 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 9, wherein  
2 said AV apparatus selects said information processing apparatus having a highest rank  
3 function based upon rank information of the functions possessed by this AV apparatus  
4 to transmit a control driver of said highest rank function to said selected information  
5 processing apparatus.

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1 13 (Currently amended). An audio-video managing system wherein said system  
2 comprises a plurality of audio-video apparatus, hereinafter referred to as AV  
3 apparatus, and a managing apparatus which is connected with said plurality of AV  
4 apparatus; and  
5 wherein said managing apparatus comprises:  
6 a managing module receiving AV apparatus information including information on  
7 functions of said AV apparatus and ranks of said functions, which is transmitted from  
8 said plurality of AV apparatus, said managing module detecting duplicated functions  
9 existing among said plurality of AV apparatus; and  
10 an allocating module determining allocation so that the duplicated function is  
11 allocated to an AV apparatus having a highest rank and optimum functions are  
12 allocated to each of said plurality of AV apparatus based upon the information on the  
13 rank of said function when the presence of duplicated functions among said plurality  
14 of AV apparatus functions is detected so that control of said duplicated functions is  
15 handled by a single command issued from said managing apparatus.

1 14 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13, wherein  
2 each of said AV apparatus comprises a communication unit transmitting control  
3 drivers of the functions which are determined by said managing apparatus to each of  
4 said managing apparatus,  
5 said managing apparatus comprises a communication unit receiving the  
6 control drivers of said functions which are transmitted from each of said AV  
7 apparatus to store and hold said control drivers, said communication unit transmitting  
8 said control drivers of said functions to any other AV apparatus which does not have  
9 said functions.

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1 15 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13, wherein  
2 said AV apparatus information comprises information of identification of its own AV  
3 apparatus, a number of sets of information on the functions and ranks, which number  
4 is equal to the number of functions which are possessed by its own AV apparatus, and  
5 in that said AV apparatus transmits said AV apparatus information to said managing  
6 apparatus when said AV apparatus is connected to said managing apparatus.

1 16 (Currently amended). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13,  
2 wherein said managing apparatus comprises an input unit inputting information which  
3 is specified by ~~an~~ a user so that presetting of the connection mode and function  
4 allocation of said AV apparatus is rendered possible by the specification of said user.

1 17 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13. wherein at  
2 least one of said plurality of AV apparatus comprises said managing apparatus.

1 18 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13, wherein  
2 said system is connected with an apparatus transferring data of plurality of channels  
3 so that data on each of said channels is reproduced by respective different AV  
4 apparatus.

1 19 (Original). An AV apparatus managing system as defined in Claim 13, wherein  
2 said system further comprises a selecting module selecting an AV apparatus which  
3 performs said function in a predetermined selecting format when a plurality of AV  
4 apparatus have a same rank for a same function.